

Timeline: Farm-Raised Fish Imported from China

November 16, 2001 - June 28, 2007

On June 28, 2007, FDA announced a broader import control of all farm-raised catfish, basa, shrimp, dace (related to carp), and eel from China, until the shipments are proven to be free of contaminants. This timeline tracks the events leading to FDA's decision.



Jan. 2006

Canadian Food

Inspection Agency

issued a country-

wide import alert

for eel imported

from China.



Sept. 2006





Chemotherapeutics in

Feb. 8, 2002

Seafood Compliance

Program was issued to collect and analyze samples of Nov. 16, 2001 selected import and domestic aquaculture seafood for presence of unapproved substances.

March 2002

FDA issued an assignment for collecting and testing seafood samples (shrimp, crabmeat, and crayfish) for the presence of chloramphenicol residues. FDA found products in violation entering the United States and issued an import alert.

FDA carried out an inspection mission to China to evaluate overall control of residues in farm-raised seafood products exported to the United States. FDA found the residue control program ineffective and communicated findings to appropriate Chinese authorities.

Nov. 13, 2006

Import alert for eel from China due to presence of malachite green residues.

FDA issues an import alert on unapproved drugs in aquaculture seafood products.

April 15, 2005

FDA issues an import alert—detention without physical examination of seafood products—due to nitrofurans.

Feb. 2006 -June 2006

FDA inspections detect malachite areen residues in eel from China.

Oct. 1, 2006 -April 30, 2007

FDA inspections repeatedly find residues of unapproved drugs and food additives in seafood imported from China.

June 28, 2007

Import alert on catfish, basa, shrimp, dace, and eel from China due to presence of unapproved antimicrobial agents.

2002 - present

Ongoing inspections of imported seafood and implementation of compliance program.

Early 2002

Europe and Canada found residues of the antibiotic chloramphenicol in shrimp imported from China.

For More Information

Press Release: www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01660.html Consumer Article: www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/seafood062807.html